

**From:** Ira J. Minor  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
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**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

I believe the proposed settlement is fair and just. I also believe that Microsoft has already implemented and is abiding by its requirements. One additional provision that would enhance the competition in Operating Systems would be to require PC manufacturers to offer new PC's with no software installed, thus allowing the buyer to choose their software of choice. Since the invention of the CD-ROM there is no technical reason to pre-install (bundle) software on the hard drive.

Internet Browser software has been a highly discussed feature. As a pioneer browser user from the days before there was a Netscape or an Internet Explorer, let me put my perspective on the subject. The first modern browser was Mosaic, developed by the NCSA, National Center for Supercomputer Applications, at the University of Illinois, with government funds. The developers of Mosaic went on to found Netscape. When developing the Netscape browser they copied Mosaic but did not license it from the NCSA. I think this is a major Copyright infringement. Netscape became very popular and was available for FREE. When Microsoft woke up and realized they needed an Internet Browser they licensed Mosaic from the NCSA and developed Internet Explorer. I switched from using Netscape to IE when IE matured and became the better product. It was faster, more reliable and offered Java support which Netscape promised but never delivered. Netscape is still available for free and can cohabitate on a system with IE but I continue to use IE because it is still the better product.

Please contact me if I can be of any assistance in helping to resolve the Microsoft Settlement.

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